

## MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS

1. The first meeting of the Group of Volunteers was held on 29 May– 1 June 2007 in Geneva.

The following experts took part in the meeting:

Mr. Peter Claeysens, the Ministry of Transport, Belgium  
Mr. Andrzej Jarosz, the Ministry of Transport (Polish Register of Shipping), Poland  
Mr. Valery Ogarkov, Russian River Register, the Russian Federation  
Mrs. Victoria Ivanova, Russian River Register, the Russian Federation  
Mr. James Wilson, the U. K. Maritime and Coastguard Agency  
Mr. Guy Toye, the European Boating Association  
Mr. Willem Zondag, the European Commission, DG TREN

2. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Willem Zondag.

The Group adopted the following agenda which is attached.

3. The Group started with the preparation of the new Chapter 20A –Specific requirements applicable to sea-going vessels- and agreed that it should not be a compulsory certificate but only issued on request of owners to enable them to sail on those rivers where such additional certificates are required. The Group agreed to follow the structure of the relevant Chapter from RVBR. For the next meeting Chapter 20A will be prepared with due regard of Annex to Resolution No. 61.

4. The Group started with the discussion of the new Chapter 20B –Specific requirements applicable to river-sea vessels-. The members of the Group exchanged the experiences of construction and operation of river-sea-going vessels in Russia, Belgium, the United Kingdom and Poland. The Group considered that there is enough experience to start the work on developing a framework for the relevant Chapter to be included into the Annex to Resolution No. 61. Attention should also be paid to such vessels involved in domestic voyages.

The Group noted that there is a need to extend document SC.3/WP.3/2007/3 with an annex containing the specific technical prescriptions for river-sea vessels.

The Group decided to start from the Rules and Regulations developed by the Russian Federation and Belgium and to consider them in the light of the Rules that came into force at the later date for checking their coherence and consistency.

The Group considered that the following documents may be used as source material for the drafting of technical requirements:

- (a) ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/8
- (b) Resolution No. 61 adopted by the ECE Working Party on Inland Water Transport on 16 March 2006, which includes an annex concerning technical requirements for inland navigation vessels;
- (c) International conventions: the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, the International Convention on Load Lines, the Convention on the Measurement of Inland Navigation Vessels, the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea and others;
- (d) European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN), as revised;
- (e) Regulations for the Inspection of Rhine Vessels (RVIR), of 1995;
- (f) European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI), of 2005;
- (g) Regulations for the classification and construction of vessels engaged in mixed (river-sea) navigation, Russian River Register, 2002;

- (h) Regulations for the classification and construction of vessels engaged in mixed navigation, OTNK, 2006;
- (i) Rules and regulations for the construction and classification of inland navigation vessels, Russian River Register, 2002;
- (j) Regulations for the environmental safety of vessels, Russian River Register, 2002;
- (k) European Directive 98/18 EC;
- (l) Regulation (EC) No. 417/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 February 2002 on the accelerated phasing-in of double hull or equivalent design requirements for single hull oil tankers and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2978/944;
- (m) Regulation (EC) No. 336/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 on the implementation of the ISM Code within the Community and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 3051/95;
- (n) ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2007/3;
- (o) European Directive 2006/87/EC.

The Group agreed that the document must contain recommendations for technical requirements applicable to river-sea navigation vessels.

In accordance with the information from the experts the Group decided that the restrictions as given in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/8 under 22 (b) should be treated with flexibility.

There should be no duplication of the technical requirements introduced under Resolution No. 61. The recommendations for river-sea navigation vessels must generally be supplementary to the requirements for inland navigation vessels. Accordingly, the corresponding sections of the recommendations may simply refer to the articles of the annex to Resolution No. 61.

The first draft of the document will be prepared by the Russian and Belgian experts and submitted to the next meeting of the Group.

5. The Group was informed on proposed amendments to Annex II to Directive 2006/87/EC. After the texts of the amendments are finished, they will be sent to the members of the Group.

6. The Group prepared draft Chapter 21 –Specific requirements applicable to recreational craft- which could be submitted to the Working Party.

7. The Group decided to hold its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in December 2007 in Brussels. The following items will be included into the agenda:

- discussion on Chapter 21;
- starting discussion on Chapter 20B;
- amendments to Directive 2006/87/EC;
- starting discussion on Chapter 20A.

Geneva, 1 June 2007

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